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Althea; Singletary

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Cecilia; Tapp

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"Leslye; Whitley"

Christopher

CC:

Date: 4/3/2013 1:37:14 PM

Subject: Sen. Claire McCaskill: West Lake Landfill

## Good Afternoon:

I was contacted by Sen. Claire McCaskill's Regional Director in St. Louis to discuss their concerns about the West Lake Landfill. We talked for 45 minutes about the lack of communication, overall concerns and next steps.

## Major points:

This site is extremely important to Sen. McCaskill

Very deep disconnect with information getting to the people who need it; access to information

Requests an complete briefing of the site and an overall picture of the communications protocol (Monday of next week; I will send out an appointment to the core group who briefed Congresswoman Wagner and her staff)

o Briefing will be for legislative staff and regional director

## **Key points from our discussion**:

Sen. McCaskill's offices have received an <u>increased</u> amount of calls, in person meetings, letters from concerned citizens, environmental groups, impacted residents, state elected officials, local government agencies, etc.

We are at a completely different place than we were; issue is going to keep getting bigger with significant ramping up of intensity

There seems to be an overall lack of information about what's going on with the site and people are grabbing toward worst cast scenarios; people are fearful o Information from EPA is not connecting with where it needs to be and that creates problems; people are getting their information from media and other connecting with where it needs to be and that creates problems; people are getting their information from media and other creates problems.

- o Information from EPA is not connecting with where it needs to be and that creates problems; people are getting their information from media and other sources
  - § There is an increased amount of coverage:

In the newspapers and on TV
Social Media – Facebook
Citizen group meetings
Environmental group meetings

People are concerned about what is going on and what the next steps are

Allegations that the EPA is sitting on information and not sharing with the community

How do we notify residents? Concerned citizens? Environmental groups? Government agencies (federal, state, local)?

o Specifically heard from the St. Louis County Health Department that they did not know what was going on at the site

## Sampling activities

- o what are we looking for?
- o Is there a certain level that would require action?
- O What is the standard?
- o What is the likelihood that we could get into a concerned level?
- o What's being done to prevent further contamination?
- o At what point do we take more vigorous action?
- o What level of cleanup by Republic Services is acceptable to EPA? Is there a costs vs. risk factor?
- o Schools are in the area are contamination levels that are harmful based on adults?

LaTonya E. Sanders Congressional Liaison

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